

P20257.A17

Application No. 09/674,526

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : H. SUSAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1654

Appl. No. : 09/674,526
(US National Stage of (PCT/JP99/02681))

Examiner: Russel

I.A. Filed : May 21, 1999

For : DRUG COMPLEX

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

220 20th Street S.

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Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03

Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statements filed May 9, 2001, June 5, 2001, January 24, 2002, and July 7, 2004, and in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in an Supplementary European Search Report issued in connection with counterpart European Application No. 99 91 9664, mailed July 13, 2004. A copy of the Supplementary European Search Report is being submitted herewith. The Examiner is invited to review the Supplementary European Search Report to inspect the relevance indicated during European examination with respect to the documents cited therein.

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EP 0 781 7841 A, accompanied by family members U.S. Patent Nos. 6,512,118, 6,617,456 and 5,892,043;

Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 1999, No. 08, 30 June 1999, accompanied by family member JP 11-071280; and

Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 1999, No. 09, 30 July 1999, of which family member JP 11-092405 was previously submitted in the Information Disclosure statement filed May 9, 2001.

Copies of the above-noted documents, except for Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 1999, No. 09, are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. Of course, this statement does not apply to information that has previously been cited by Applicant or the Examiner in the present application as that information is already of record and no certification is necessary. Moreover, this statement does not apply to the identified U.S. Patent family members, which were submitted for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants note that this disclosure statement is being filed after first action and close of prosecution on the merits and close of prosecution. Therefore, a check including the amount of

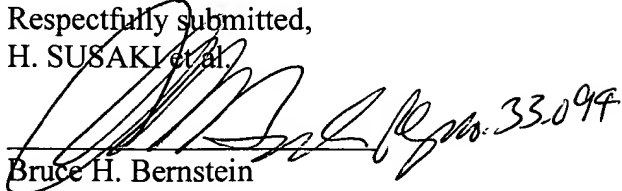
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\$180.00 is enclosed. However, if the fee is deficient and/or if any additional fee is required for consideration of this disclosure statement, including any fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), Applicants hereby authorize that any required fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
H. SUSAKI et al.


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September 22, 2004
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Application No.
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Group
1654

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.